

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:)
RANEY et al.) Before the Examiner
Application No. 10/729,546) Hoekstra, Jeffrey Gerben
Filed December 05, 2003) Group Art Unit
SAMPLING DEVICES AND METHODS) 3736
UTILIZING A HORIZONTAL CAPILLARY)
TEST STRIP) Confirmation No. 1896

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Introductory Comments

In response to the Office Action dated December 18, 2006, please enter the following amendments and remarks in the above-mentioned patent application.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any extensions of time as well as any additional fees or credit any overcharges to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page **2** of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page **9** of this paper.